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EUROPEAN BRIEF 145-75.4

EAST GERMANY: AT RECENT RECEPTIONS ON THE NATIONAL DAYS OF NORTH VIETNAM AND NORTH KOREA, THE EAST GERMANS

CLEARLY DISPLAYED THEIR PREFERENCE FOR HANOI.4

PARTY CHIEF HONECKER LED A DELEGATION THAT INCLUDED VIRTUALLY THE ENTIRE POLITBURO--INCLUDING
CANDIDATE MEMBERS--TO THE NORTH VIETNAMESE RECEPTION.
BY MARKED CONTRAST, ONLY ONE POLITBURO MEMBER--WHO
WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE VIETNAMESE CELEBRATION--AND
A HANDFUL OF LESSER FUNCTIONARIES ATTENDED THE NORTH
KOREAN RECEPTION.Y

MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE TWO FUNCTIONS ALSO REFLECTED THE TILT IN FAVOR OF HANOI THAT IS CHARACTERISTIC OF EAST GERMANY'S CONTINUING SUPPORT OF
MOSCOW'S VIEWS OF THE ASIAN COMMUNISTS. {AT PRESENT,
MOSCOW'S RELATIONS WITH HANOI ARE CONSIDERABLY WARMER
THAN SOVIET TIES WITH PYONGYANG. THE EAST GERMAN
PARTY DAILY DEVOTED FRONT PAGE COVERAGE, INCLUDING
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KOREAN AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION WAS LIMITED TO A SMALL REFERENCE ON PAGE TWO OF NEUES DEUTSCHLAND. {CON-FIDENTIALD. E-2 IMPDET.A

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EAP BRIEF 145-75.4

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MIDDLE EAST AFRICA BRIEF 145-75.4

LEBANON: THE SECURITY SITUATION TOOK A TURN FOR THE WORSE TUESDAY, DESPITE EFFORTS BY THE GOVERNMENT AND PLO CHIEF YASIR ARAFAT TO HALT THE FIGHTING.Y

IN BEIRUT, THERE HAVE BEEN MORTAR AND MACHINE-GUN DUELS,
AND ROADBLOCKS HAVE BEEN SET UP IN MANY AREAS. IN THE NORTH,
LEFTIST MUSLIM ELEMENTS HAVE SEIZED MORE POLICE POSTS IN TRIPOLI
AND HAVE ATTACKED NEARBY CHRISTIAN VILLAGES.Y

ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS OF THE PAST FEW DAYS HAS BEEN THE EMERGENCE OF YASIR ARAFAT AS AN EVEN GREATER POWER IN DOMESTIC POLITICS AT A TIME WHEN PRESIDENT FRANJIYAH HAS PLAYED LITTLE ROLE AT ALL. THE PLO SECURITY FORCE HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN ORDERED BY ARAFAT TO HELP THE GOVERNMENT SECURITY FORCES RESTORE ORDER IN BOTH BEIRUT AND TRIPOLI.Y

FORMER PRIME MINISTER SAIB SALAM, A BEIRUT MUSLIM LEADER

LEFT TUESDAY FOR DAMASCUS TO SEEK HELP FROM SYRIA IN ENDING THE

FIGHTING Y (SECRET) E-2 IMPDET.4

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WESTERN HEMISAHERE DRIEF 145-75.4

VENEZUELA: AN INFLUENTIAL CONSERVATIVE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
HAS LEHT ITS SUPPORT TO ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS TO REGULATE POREIGN
CAPITAL.4

IN A MAJOR SPEECH ON AUGUST 26, ANTONIO JOSE DIAZ MARTINEZ,

PRESIDENT OF THE VENEZUELAN PEDERATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

CPEDECAMARASD, PRAISED THE CONTRIBUTION OF FOREIGN PRIVATE CAPITAL

TO VENEZUELAN DEVELOPMENT. HE EMPHASIZED THAT TIMES HAVE CHANGED,

HOWEVER, AND FOREIGN INVESTORS MUST ADJUST TO THE NEW ORDER DEVELOP
IMG IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. HE SAID FUTURE

INVESTMENT MUST ADJUST NOT ONLY TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF "SOVEREIGN

CONTROL" BY THE GOVERNMENT BUT ALSO TO THE PRIORITIES SET BY ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT PLANS. MARTINEZ CLAIMED THAT IF INVESTORS ACCEPT THESE

RESTRICTIONS THEY CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE ECONOMIC "TAKE-OFF." THIS

WOULD INVOLVE OPPORTUNITIES TO INVEST ABOUT 623 BILLIGH IN BASIC AND

STRATEGIC INDUSTRIES OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS.Y

AS PRESIDENT OF FEDECAMARAS, DIAZ MARTINEZ IS THE PRINCIPAL SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNTRY'S PRIVATE SECTOR. IN PAST YEARS THE

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ORGANIZATION HAS PLAYED A HIGHLY INFLUENTIAL AND USUALLY CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN REVIEWING AND CRITICIZING GOVERNMENT POLICIES—-ESPECIALLY IN DEFENSE OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. IN SEPTEMBER 1974, THE GROUP ATTACKED THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED TERMS FOR NATIONALIZING THE OIL INDUSTRY. CALLING THEM UNNECESSARILY PUNITIVE AND RESTRICTIVE.Y

FEDECAMARAS HAS USUALLY SUPPORTED OR AT LEAST TAKEN A NEUTRAL STAND ON PARTICIPATION OF FOREIGN CAPITAL IN THE ECONOMY. DIAZ MARTINEZES ELECTION AS PRESIDENT LAST MAY WAS HERALDED AS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA OF RECONCILIATION AND COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT. HE IS REPUTED TO HAVE CLOSE TIES WITH PRESIDENT PEREX AND HIS SPEECH CLOSELY PARALLELS THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS ON THE ROLE OF PRIVATE POREIGN INVESTMENT. UNDER DIAZ MARTINEZ, FEDECAMARAS APPEARS TO HAVE CONCLUDED THAT ITS INTERESTS LIE IN SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO RESTRICT THE ROLE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT. ALTHOUGH HE JUSTIFIED THIS POSITION ON IDEOLOGICAL GROUNDS, THE PRACTICAL BENEFIT FOR INCREASED INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES BY LOCAL ENTREPRENEURS IS NOT OVERLEOKED.

DESPITE THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES OF FEDERAMARAS'
SUPPORT FOR STRICT REGULATION AND COMTROL OF POREIGN INVESTMENT. IT

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MAY DOOMERANG IN THE END. VENEZUELA IS GOVERNED BY POLITICIANS WITH STRONG STATIST VIEWS. CONTROLS ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT COULD PRODUCE PRESSURES AND PROVIDE PRECEDENTS FOR THE APPLICATION OF SIMILAR MEASURES TO THE DOMESTIC PRIVATE SECTOR. ALTHOUGH THIS ATTITUDE IS SO FAR CONFINED LARGELY TO THE EXTREME LEFTIST PARTIES. IT MAY YET RECEIVE BROADER SUPPORT AND FEDERARAS MAY FIND THAT IT HAS IN-ADVERTENTLY GIVEN ASSISTANCE TO ITS TRADITIONAL ENEMIES.

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